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| In re Patent Application of:   | ) | Confirmation No. 9177    |
|                                | ) |                          |
| Nowlin, William C. et al.      | ) | Group Art Unit: 3737     |
|                                | ) |                          |
| Applic. Serial No.: 10/052,204 | ) |                          |
|                                | ) |                          |
| Filed: 01/15/2002              | ) | Examiner: Smith, Ruth S. |
|                                | ) |                          |
| For: REPOSITIONING AND         | ) |                          |
| REORIENTATION OF               | ) |                          |
| MASTER/SLAVE RELATIONSHIP      | ) |                          |
| IN MINIMALLY INVASIVE          | ) |                          |
| TELESURGERY                    | ) |                          |
|                                | ) |                          |
|                                | ) | Sunnyvale, California    |

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Signature

8/27/05  
Date

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This communication responds to the Advisory Action of July 1, 2005 and the Final Office Action of March 1, 2005. Attached is a Request for Continued Examination, Petition for Extension of Time extending the period for response to September 1, 2005, and Fee for the Extension of Time.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

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Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

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